

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-31. **(Canceled)**

32. **(Currently amended)** A method of treating a teat of an animal ~~with the device of~~
Claim 1 comprising:

~~the step of inserting said a device through a teat~~ an orifice of the teat and into a
teat streak canal during involution; and

retaining the device in position within the teat streak canal without any part of the
device penetrating outwards beyond an epithelium of the teat orifice.

33. **(Currently amended)** A method of treating an animal as claimed in Claim 32
including a ~~the~~ further step of delivering one or more treatment substances to the teat streak
canal.

34.-37. **(Canceled)**

38. **(Currently amended)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the retaining
~~comprises retaining comprising a further step of retaining~~ the device within the teat streak canal
for a time sufficient for the device to integrate with endogenous keratin to form a composite plug.

39. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, further comprising degrading the device
within the teat streak canal over time.

40. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the device acts as a physical
barrier to prevent unwanted passage of substances through the teat streak canal.

41. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, further comprising:

milking the animal and ceasing milking the animal prior to the inserting;

drying off after the inserting; and

retaining the device within the teat streak canal after a build up in milk pressure
that occurs immediately after the-drying off without the device being ejected.

42. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, further comprising dislodging the device
from the teat streak canal by milk pressure generated as a consequence of lactogenesis.

43. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the retaining is enhanced by one
or more surface features of the device.

44. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 43, wherein said one or more surface features
include one or more grooves.

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45. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 43, wherein said one or more surface features include a spiral thread.

46. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 43, wherein said one or more surface features include a plurality of protrusions.

47. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the inserting of the device occurs with minimal dislodgement of keratin.

48. **(New)** The method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the device does not extend into a teat cistern.